

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application (material to be inserted in amended claims is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~).

Please cancel claim 7, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-6 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ball end mill comprising:
a tool main body which rotates around a rotational axis thereof;
~~an approximately semi-circular~~ **a** cutting blade **section provided** ~~at the tip of a~~ **a**
tip of the tool main body ~~which rotates around a rotational axis;~~
a cutting blade which is formed at a tip of the cutting blade section, and has a
substantially semi-circular shape; and
a rake face and a flank, which are provided on either side of the cutting blade [[:]]
wherein;
the cutting blade ~~intersects a tip end surface of the tool main body at a position~~
~~which deviates~~ **is disposed on a flat face parallel to the rotational axis; and**
the flat face is shifted from the rotational axis by a predetermined distance
~~along a radial direction of the tool main body~~ **when the flat face is viewed along the**
rotational axis.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The ball end mill ~~as described in~~
according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined distance ~~being~~ is the length within a
range of ~~between 0.5 % and to~~ 10 % of the outer diameter of the cutting blade.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[A]~~ The ball end mill ~~as described in~~ according to
Claim 1, wherein:

~~blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side~~
~~of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of~~
~~inclination when viewed from a cross section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting~~
~~blade; and~~

~~each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles~~
a blade face having the rake face and the flank formed continuously with
each other is formed on each side of the cutting blade; and
rake angles of the rake faces on each side of the cutting blade are different to
each other.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[A]~~ The ball end mill ~~as described in~~ according to
Claim 2, wherein:

~~blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side~~
~~of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of~~
~~inclination when viewed from a cross section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting~~
~~blade; and~~

~~each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles~~
a blade face having the rake face and the flank formed continuously with
each other is formed on each side of the cutting blade; and
rake angles of the rake faces on each side of the cutting blade are different to
each other.

5. (Currently Amended) [A] ~~The~~ ball end mill ~~as described in~~ **according to** Claim 1, **wherein a** the rake angle of the rake face ~~being~~ **is** a negative angle.

6. (Currently Amended) The ball end mill ~~as described in~~ **according to** Claim 1, **wherein** the cutting blade ~~being~~ **is** slightly rounded by mirror polishing.

7. (Canceled)